

Fall 8-15-1997

ENG 1001C-014-034: Composition and Language

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Recommended Citation

Veach, Tammy, "ENG 1001C-014-034: Composition and Language" (1997). *Fall 1997*. 14.
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ENGLISH 1001-C COURSE GUIDELINES, FALL 1997

Instructor: Tammy Veach
Office: Coleman Hall 339-C
Office Phone: 581-6295
Office Hours: 12:00- 1:00 MWF,
2:00 - 3:00 MW and by appt.

Texts: Axelrod, Cooper, and Warriner--*The St. Martin's Guide to Writing*
Hirschberg--*One World, Many Cultures*
Homer, et. al.--*Harbrace College Handbook* and dictionary supplement
A folder for your course work

What to say when we write and—equally important—the *way* to say it will be our primary concerns this semester. Language, especially the written word, has the potential to inspire, persuade, instruct, entertain; to engage both our passions and our intellect; literally to unite and divide entire nations. We will explore the purposes and the power of written language this semester, using the words of professional writers along with the students in our own class as our "text." While we'll talk some about writing, mostly we'll write— and write, and write, and write—sometimes for a grade, sometimes not. But writing will be an everyday occurrence in this class. Ultimately, though, this class will be an examination of the self—*your* ideas and insights, the words *you* want to express—as we explore and develop individual voices for our prose (the *way* we write).

ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE: If you miss class, for whatever reason, it is your responsibility to find out what we did that day. Your syllabus is merely tentative, so check with me or a classmate to see if changes were made in your absence. Any graded activities or in-class exercises missed can be made up only if your absence is excused. I will only grant excuses for serious circumstances—personal illness that can be documented by health service or a doctor's note (no exceptions), a death in your immediate family (again, I'll need confirmation), and the like. **EXCUSES WILL NOT BE GRANTED FOR MATTERS OF PERSONAL CONVENIENCE**—rides home, oversleeping, job interviews, appts. with your advisor, etc. If you are to miss class because of participation in an **OFFICIAL** University function, work can be made up **ONLY** if completed **BEFORE** you leave. It is your responsibility to notify me of such absences in advance, allowing yourself ample time to find out what assignments you'll be missing and to complete and turn in your work before you go. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL HURT YOUR SEMESTER GRADE!!** Please note that 25% of your semester grade is based on in-class writing, classroom activities, and participation.

LATE PAPERS: You must keep up. Assignments are due at the start of class on the dates listed on your syllabus. Essays will be graded down one letter grade for each day they are turned in late, and essays are considered late if they are turned in after I collect them at the start of class, so be sure to show up on time and to have the necessary materials to complete the assignment **BEFORE** class, because "I ran out of ribbon," "I couldn't get my computer to print it out," "the dog (or computer) ate my disk," "I left my folder in my room," and the like are **NOT** acceptable excuses for turning your work in late. **NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED THAT ARE MORE THAN ONE WEEK LATE.** The only late work accepted without penalty is that caused by an **EXCUSED** absence.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as early in the term as possible if you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations. Please let me know as well, because I can be of greater assistance to you if I am made aware of your disability early in the term.

CONFERENCES: These have been scheduled 2 times during the term, though you're encouraged to come in any other time as well (that's what I'm here for!). Bring with you a completed rough draft of the current assignment, your written comments and questions about the rough draft, and your folder with your course work. Be prepared to initiate the conversation about your writing. And be wary of breaking the 11th Commandment: **THOU SHALT NOT STAND UP THY ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR.**

VOICE MAIL: While I don't give out my unlisted home phone number, I do encourage you to call me at my office (581-6295), even at times other than my posted office hours. If I'm not in, my phone is equipped with voice mail, so be sure to leave a message **INCLUDING YOUR PHONE NUMBER**, and I'll get back to you shortly—I typically pick up my messages several times a day.

GRADING: Eng 1001-C is graded on an A, B, C, or NC (no credit) basis. If you do not earn at least a C for the semester, you must take the course again. English department standards (see handout) will be used to determine grades on all written work. These are rather stringent guidelines, probably much higher than what you were used to in high school, evaluating not only the quality of your ideas but also your writing style, method of organization, ability to avoid grammatical mistakes, etc. Exercises that we do in class, participation, preparedness for conferences, and the like will also be noted in the gradebook. I grade on a 90-80-70 scale, with 1,000 points tentatively planned for the semester, thus, in all likelihood, 900 for the lowest A, 800 for a B, and 700 for a C. **YOU MUST EARN AT LEAST 700 POINTS (70%) TO PASS THIS COURSE.**

GRADED ACTIVITIES:

- Assignment # 1, 10% of semester grade (100 points)—Revision of your choice of first three practice essays (personal narrative, description, compare/contrast)
- Assignment #2, 10% (100 points)—In-class essay: Defining a concept
- Assignment #3, 15% (150 points)—Persuasion—Conference required
- Assignment #4, 20% (200 points)—Research Paper—Conference required
- Assignment #5, 30% (300 points)—Portfolio (More on this later, but in short, your portfolio consists of four revised and polished essays that you believe constitute your best writing, two of which you have chosen from the graded assignments, and two of which you have chosen from non-graded assignments, including your diagnostic essay, and journal entries. Along with these essays you will submit the original drafts and a statement explaining the changes you made to each essay and justifying your selections.)
- Participation and Daily Activities, 10% (100 points)—(Homework, quizzes, practice essays, conferences, participation in class discussions and activities, etc.)
- Journal, 5% (50 points)—See handout. Minimum of 10 entries required; checked twice during the semester.
- Extra Credit, 10 points—Have a Letter-to-the-Editor published this semester in the *DEN*, one of the local papers, your hometown paper, a magazine, etc. Please furnish me with a copy of the entire page on which your letter appears (no photocopies, please).

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON PLAGIARISM:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

TENTATIVE SYLLABUS, FALL 1997
ENG 1002-C, VEACH

(P = Poetry book; F = Fiction/ Short Stories book; D = Drama book; H = Handout)

AUGUST

- M 25 Intro to course and policies; writing sample; Poetry terminology (handout)
W 27 Tips for approaching poetry (P 26-28); "Those Winter Sundays" (P 12-13); Distinguishing good from bad: "Traveling Through the Dark" (P 118) & "Thoughts on Capital Punishment" (H)

SEPTEMBER

- M 1 Labor Day – No Class
W 3 Speaker: "Home Burial" (300-303), "Patterns" (H), "Preface to a Twenty Volume Suicide Note" (H)

M 8 Imagery: "To Autumn" (P 240), "The Fish" (P 19), "Dulce Et Decorum Est" (P 76)
W 10 Diction: "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers," "The Elder Sister," and "Ex-Basketball Player" (all H)

M 15 Tone: "Still I Rise" (H), "My Arkansas" (P 345); Discuss writing about poetry (P 556+)—Essay # 1 assigned
W 17 Form: "The Loveliest of Trees" (P 178), "Do Not Go Gentle" (P 184), "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" (P 446), "When, in disgrace. . ." (P 421); Study sheet for Exam # 1 distributed in class

M 22 An Author's Work—Anne Sexton: "Her Kind" (P 168); "To a Friend. . .," "The Starry Night," "The Truth the Dead Know," "The Lost Ingredient," and "All My Pretty Ones" (All H)
W 24 **EXAM # 1 ON POETRY**—bring your own paper and a pen or pencil

M 29 No Class—Conferences on Essay # 1 & poetry project

OCTOBER

- W 1 " "

M 6 **ESSAY # 1 DUE!!!** Elements of fiction lecture. Style: "The Story of an Hour" (F 320-21), "Hills Like White Elephants" (F 615-18)
W 8 Point-of-View: "A Rose for Emily" (F 457 - 463); Essay #2 Assigned

M 13 Point-of-View: "The Yellow Wallpaper" (F 531-42)
W 15 Setting: "Sonny's Blues" (F 74-97)

M 20 Tone: "The Things They Carried" (F 1022-35)
W 22 Symbol: "The Shawl" (F 1098-1101); Review sheet for Exam # 2 distributed in class

M 27 Symbol: "The Red Convertible" (F 448-55); Humor: "The Kugelmass Episode" (F 32-41)
W 29 **EXAM # 2**—bring your own paper and pen or pencil

NOVEMBER

- M 3 **ESSAY #2 DUE!!!** Intro to drama—*Hamlet* (D 249- 312)—Act I only
W 5 " " Acts I & II; Act III Scene 1

M 10 " " Act III & IV
W 12 Act V; Essay # 3 Assigned; 6:00 - 10:00 p.m., video of *Hamlet* shown, location TBA

M 17 *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (D 939-84)
W 19 " " & **PROJECT # 2 DUE!!!!!!**

M 24 & W 26 No Class—Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER

M 1 *Death of a Salesman* (D 997-1041)
W 3 " "

M 8 **ESSAY # 3 DUE!!!** Video of *Death of A Salesman*
W 10 Finish video; Review for Exam # 3 on drama

T 16 **2:45 - 4:45 EXAM # 3 (ON DRAMA ONLY)**